



Washington State Department of Ecology 2001 Agricultural Burning Permit Application

Is an Agricultural Burning Permit Required?

All commercial agricultural operations must obtain a permit prior to burning natural vegetation except when burning orchard prunings, natural vegetation along fencelines, irrigation and drainage ditches or natural vegetation blown by the wind. You must notify your fire protection authority prior to igniting **any** fire, even if an air quality permit is not required.

Best Management Practices (BMP's)

Agricultural burning is allowed when it is reasonably necessary to carry out the enterprise. A farmer can show it is reasonably necessary when it meets the criteria of the BMP's and no practical alternative exists. The Agricultural Burning Practices and Research Task Force has recently written new BMP's for cereal crop burning and modified existing BMP's for other crops. BMP's are one of the ways to demonstrate the need to burn. Growers not using these BMP's must establish that their proposed burn is reasonably necessary and that no practical alternative is available. The burden of proof is on the grower, and the demonstration must satisfy the Department of Ecology (Ecology) and the local delegation permitting authority.

Notice of Intent

Please provide your plan to apply to burn as early as possible. At that time, you may obtain a permit application checklist. The information identified in the checklist will assist you in completing this application.

Completing the Application

1. Fill out the information requested on the following pages. *The application must be complete and the applicant statement sheet signed and the top pages returned, otherwise this will be an incomplete application. The permit may be denied if all information is not provided.*
2. Attach a map of the **affected acreage** that clearly outlines the area where you plan to burn. The map should include Section, Township, and Range lines and roads. (The FSA aerial photos or USGS 7.5 minutes maps are good for this purpose.)
3. Attach documentation of the management history and the future management plan of the area requested to burn.
4. Attach any documentation from 3rd party agronomic experts that helps to demonstrate the need to burn.
5. Attach any documentation of compliance with soil loss standards.
6. Calculate total acres and the fee in the space provided.
7. Sign and date the application.
8. Mail the application and check for the permit fee to the following address:

Agricultural Burning Account
Washington State Department of Ecology
PO Box 5128
Lacey, WA 98509-5128

What Happens Next?

Ecology will evaluate your application and determine if you have demonstrated that burning is necessary to carry out your enterprise and that no alternatives exist. The burden of proof rests with you. Ecology will act on a **completed** application within seven (7) days and will either send you a permit or a written explanation as to why the application was denied.

If the permit is denied you are subject to a refund less a \$25 processing fee.

Ecology is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Legal Owner (as shown on County Assessors Records)	Operator
Name:	Operators Name:
Business Name:	Business Name:
Mailing Address:	Mailing Address:
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____	City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Contact Person: _____	Contact Person: _____
Phone: _____ Phone: _____	Phone: _____ Phone: _____

Burn Summary and Calculation of Permit Fee: (please complete once entire application has been completed)

Summary of Permit Application

Burn	Location (s) including corner 1/4 sections. (40 acre plots)			Acres	Crop	2000 Yield	Expected Burn Date
	Section	Township	Range				
Burn #1							
Burn #2							
Burn #3							
Burn #4							
Burn #5							
Burn #6							

Total Acres _____ Total Acres requested to Burn: _____ X \$2.00 = \$ _____

* Minimum fee is the larger of \$25.00 flat fee or \$2.00 per acre.

Applicant Statements:

Enclosed applicant statements must be signed and top page returned. Incomplete applications will not be processed.

Refund Policy

Refund requests for Spring Permits must be received prior to **June 30th**. Refund requests for Fall Permits must be received prior to **December 31st**.

*If the permit is denied the grower and or applicant is subject to a refund, less a \$25.00 processing fee.

Applicant Signature

Date

(fill out a section for each field, do not group fields. You must make a showing of need to burn for each field/portion of field you expect to burn. Attach addendum sheets as needed.)

Burn # _____

Are you using BMP's to demonstrate your need to burn? Yes _____ No _____ **If no, describe what you will use to make a demonstration** _____

Crop Type (be specific-ex: use "Spring Wheat" instead of "Wheat" or "Stubble"): _____

Acres to be burned: _____ **Total acres in the field:** _____ **Irrigated:** Yes _____ No _____

Expected burn dates: Between _____ and _____

Reason for Burn: Cereal Grain: Pest Management _____ Residue Management _____

Other crop: (If using BMP guidance, provide item number & letter): _____

Section, township and range for field or portions of a field to be burned for BURN #1 ONLY. (List multiple sections within a township and range on same line, list sections in different township and range on separate lines).

Section(s): 1/4 _____ **Township:** _____ **Range:** _____

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Provide a detailed explanation as to why you believe burning is necessary (Attach additional sheets as necessary):

Describe which alternatives to burning you have tried or considered and why you believe these were not effective (If requesting to burn a cereal grain crop, see page 11 of the BMP's. Attach additional sheets as necessary):

Has the field/portions of field been thoroughly inspected? Yes _____ No _____ **If yes, By whom?**

Describe the results of this inspection: _____

If burning for residue management, has the residue level been measured for the area requested to burn?

Yes _____ **No** _____ **If yes, by whom?** _____

What is the average residue level? _____

If not measured what is the average yield? _____

Does this represent an entire field or selected spots?

Have you burned this area in the past: **Yes** _____ **No** _____ **If yes, when** (list all seasons and years since February 1995) _____

Explain how you can assure that the acreage requested to burn will not violate compliance with soil loss standards (Attach additional documentation as necessary): _____

Describe future crop rotation plans and/or plans for future non-burning for the area where burning is being requested (Attach additional documentation as necessary): _____

What practices do you plan to change to reduce emissions? _____

What have you done in the past? _____

Fire Department / District (# and name): _____ **County** _____

Driving directions/street address (if available) irrigation block & unit (if applicable) of field or portion of field to be burned: _____